## **PATENT**

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

10/612,750

Confirmation No.:

5548

Applicant

Valade, JR., Franklin H.

Filed

July 2, 2003

TC/A.U.

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Examiner

Lieu, Julie Bichngoc

Docket No.

C4-1184

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## **RESPONSE**

SIR:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed on August 21, 2006, with the three month shortened statutory period for response under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) set to expire on November 21, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows. This response is timely filed within two-months of the mailing date of the Final Office Action on Monday, October 23, 2006.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 12 of this paper.